

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Restriction Requirement states that the Examiner has determined that two distinct inventions are contained in this application, namely:

(I) Claims 1-16, drawn to lyophilized preparations comprising hepatocyte growth factors.

(II) Claims 17-21, drawn to stabilizing agents.

The Requirement has therefore required that an election be made between these inventions.

The Examiner has also determined that an election of species is also required for this application, namely one of:

- a) Arginine
- b) Lysine
- c) Histidine
- d) Glutamine
- e) Proline
- f) glutamic acid
- g) aspartic acid
- h) sulfated polysaccharides

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-3, 7-16, 18 and 19 are generic.